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## FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

IN CHARGE OF

LAVINIA L. DOCK, R.N.

### THE WAR

The darkness of this terrible war is repeated in the silence of our European members. Not a line has come from any country in Europe since the war broke out, except a brief note from Miss Hubrecht in Holland. She speaks of the complete preoccupation of everyone in questions of nursing and general relief, and the submerging of all other activities and interests. She fears not more than two or three can hope to attend the San Francisco Congress instead of the dozen or more who planned to do so from Holland. From New Zealand Miss Maclean writes: "I very much fear there will be no delegates from this country, and for myself, all government leave is stopped."

The officers of the International in the United States still hope that there may be some representation of foreign countries next summer, at least sufficient to enable us to receive our new members, China and Australia, yet doubt and uncertainty cloud all expectations. At a meeting in New York, in the beginning of October, it was agreed that we would wait until the beginning of the new year before asking our foreign members of the Council for their definite word as to the International program. Our national meetings, of course, will go on, and even if only one nurse comes from abroad we shall be ready to welcome her.

### THE INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL

As announced in our *Official News* last month, the nursing exhibit and the Nightingale Memorial Fund contributions have been abandoned. Calls for relief are already urgent, and it is no time to ask for funds for upbuilding our own education when the victims of destruction are penniless by thousands. Even our own situation feels the strain and reaction, and many look forward to hard times among nurses this winter.